

“I am an abstract artist working in found objects and mixed media. I use unusual tools, acrylic and mixed media on canvas to produce art that has order, unpredictability, and an inherent integrity to the mundane objects that transcend their origins. Color and texture become vehicles for infusing my work with emotion and power, becoming sculptural elements at work in the piece.

I am drawn to found-objects that catch my eye and don't spend time searching for stuff but rather am always aware of the everyday detritus lying around; everything a potential candidate for my canvas. These objects are what I start with to build my collages – to begin a rapport. In doing so, a language develops between the piece and me as it evolves and emerges. Always I have a plan though not always consciously, there is a constant interchange of control between me and the materials, a vibrant tension that is elastic - sometimes taut other times loose, a kind of ebb and flow between us as we work together to resolve the puzzle that is collage.

Experimentation and pushing of boundaries are part of what happens in my quest to bring unity to my work. I am intrigued by the different qualities unique in the various media I work with; what happens when I force different elements to co-exist and how can I pull it together. This is where both the cerebral and the intuitive become partners in the creative process.”

Karen Graber, 2003